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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of :
ALASTAIR HUGH SERVANTE ET AL. : Attorney Docket No.
Serial No. 09/117,214 : 292/30.35.37
Filed July 24, 1998 : Corresponding to PCT/BE97/00008
PRINTABLE FILM : filed January 21, 1997

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of (X) the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or () the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. () within 3 months of the filing date of the above- identified application, or
(X) within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of a International application, or
() before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus:
(X) no certification and/or fee is required.
- b. () after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:
() the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
() a fee of \$ is enclosed.
- c. () after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
() the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
() a Petition and fee of \$ are enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified:

- () that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

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- () that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. () Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
- (X) reference is made to an English language abstract submitted herewith, and/or
 - (X) reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
 - () reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
 - () reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) , and/or
 - (X) reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

The JP '294 reference relates to an image receiving layer for sublimation transfer recording made of cross linking resins capable of cross linking after recording; the JP '887 reference relates to a recording method using ink accepting layers composed of unhardened or semi-hardened resins that are hardened by energy such as light after imaging; and the DE '484 reference relates to transfer of a picture onto surfaces coated with a hardenable low molecular weight polymer.

5. (X) Applicants also offer the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:


Copies of two European Search Reports are enclosed, the first issued July 29, 1996 and the second on September 26, 1996, which replaces the first one. When Applicants received the first search report, they were of the opinion that the references cited therein, although in category X, were not particularly relevant to the claimed invention, for example, because they relate to "thermal printing" (IPC B41M) technology, to which the present invention does not relate. After a telephone conversation with the EPO, the second search report was issued.

Applicants also note that the GB '520 reference cited on the attached PTO-1449 form corresponds to the FR '607 reference cited in the International search report of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 20, 1998
Attachment(s)